



THE REPUBLICAN  
STUDY COMMITTEE

## RSC MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Republican Study Committee  
**FROM:** Chairman Jim Banks  
**DATE:** November 17, 2021  
**RE:** Pumping Up Prices on Working Families

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### **Democrats' Reconciliation Bill: Pumping Up Prices on Working Families**

**Big Picture:** Tucked into the 2,500 pages of the so-called “Build Back Better” plan is *half a trillion* in funding and policies that together amount to “**Phase One of the Green New Deal**.” And, as we all know, these radical and insane policies will break our economy.

That’s why I’ve got the staff at the Republican Study Committee to break down the so-called “green” parts of this bill and analyze how they’ll impact working families.

As you’ll see, Democrats’ “green” energy policies are designed to make working class families’ lives *uncomfortable*. That’s on purpose—Democrats have long advocated for energy taxes to encourage people to use less. They want to phase out the energy sources Americans depend on and replace them with more expensive and less reliable “green” energy sources.

You don’t have to take my word for it. The Biden administration’s nominee for the Treasury Department said the quiet part out loud: She wants coal, oil and gas industries ‘[to go bankrupt](#).’

Now you understand why they’re canceling pipelines and causing gasoline prices to jump by nearly 50% in the last year!

If you think it’s bad now, just know that it can—and will—get a lot worse if Democrats pass their reconciliation bill and enact Phase One of the Green New Deal.

Here’s what the Democrats have planned:

#### **Taxing the kitchen stove:**

The reconciliation bill would issue punitive taxes *aimed directly* at American families. It would:

- Empower the Federal government to levy exorbitant taxes on the methane energy used by more than [half the country](#) to heat and power their homes.

- The tax on energy would be a tax on everyday goods, [meaning](#) higher prices for food, medical supplies, roads, and even cell phones.
- The bill would also incentivize inefficient transitions to so-called “clean energy,” leaving Americans paying higher utility bills for less reliable energy.

The message this bill sends is loud and clear: ***Take energy production elsewhere.*** The bill would increase American dependency on foreign oil at a time the Biden administration is literally [begging OPEC to dill more oil](#). The indirect costs of this artificially reduced supply are felt by consumers with their pocketbook. To do this, the bill would:

- Ban energy production on large swaths of federal land;
- Overturn provisions included in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that authorized energy production in the Arctic.
- Ban new oil and gas production off nearly all of America’s coastline.
- The bill uses a carrot-and-stick approach to effectively force states to adopt “green” energy goals while promising “consequences” for those that don’t.

### **New “green” toys for Democrats’ base—wealthy urbanites:**

While American families pay higher utility bills and more at the pump, elite urbanites favored by the left get cash in their pockets. The bill doesn’t hide its favoritism:

- An EV credit explicitly for the wealthy, with up to \$12,500 available to families making up to half-a-million dollars.
- [Allows](#) General Motors and Telsa vehicles to qualify for an unlimited number of federal EV tax credits, which are currently capped per company by federal law.
- Gives purchasers of electric bikes new tax credits.

### **Funding their culture warriors:**

The left knows their policies are out of touch. In order to combat this, they shovel billions of dollars directly to their “woke” far-left base. The bill includes:

- \$10 billion to fund woke college climate change education
- \$3 billion for “environmental and climate justice block grants” used by leftist lobbying groups to fight for woke policy.
- \$2.5 billion for a slush fund that would send taxpayer dollars to radical environmental groups to plant trees and advance “tree equity.”
- Over \$4 billion to effectively create a Civilian Climate Corps, paying Democrat activists, giving them salaries, housing, medical care, and food in exchange for their advocacy.

### **Bottom line:**

So we see the Left’s strategy: Transfer wealth towards the rich and elite friends. However, the Green New Deal policies they promote would leave all other Americans paying more to heat their homes and fill their tanks, and would leave more of the America’s most vulnerable out in the cold.